

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

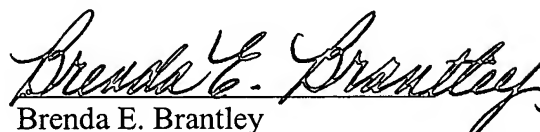
Applicant(s): Bonnie R. Hames et al.)
Serial No.: 10/031,216) Art Group: 1651
Filing Date: January 22, 2002) Examiner: Srivastava, K.C.
Title: Improved Process for the Conversion of an) Atty. Dkt. No. NREL 98-22
Aqueous Biomass Hydrolyzate into Fuels or)
Chemicals by the Selective Removal of)
Fermentation Inhibitors)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that the following attached items:

- Amendment Under 37 CFR § 1.115 [7 pages]
- Postcard receipt

are being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage pre-paid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Va 22313-1450 on this 3rd day of December 2003.


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Serial No. : 10/031,216)
Filing Date: 01/11/2002) Group Art: 1651
Title: Improved Process for the Conversion) Examiner: Srivastava, K.C.
of an Aqueous Biomass Hydrolyzate)
Into Fuels or Chemicals by the)
Selective Removal of Fermentation)
Inhibitors)

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.115

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed September 17, 2003, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Amended) A process of making a fuel or chemical from a biomass hydrolyzate comprising:

- (a) providing a biomass hydrolyzate;
- (b) Adjusting pH of said biomass hydrolyzate within a range of 6 – 10.0;
- (c) contacting a metal oxide selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, vanadium oxide, and zirconium oxide having an affinity for guaiacyl or syringyl functional groups or both with said biomass hydrolyzate for a time sufficient to form an adsorption complex comprising a compound consisting essentially of phenol compounds obtained from